

Delta In-Channel Islands Work Group Meeting Notes
Wednesday, March 17, 2004

1. Welcome

The meeting was chaired by Kent Nelson, Department of Water Resources. Attendance attached. Marina Brand submitted changes to the meeting notes of the last meeting; those changes were distributed and accepted.

2. Contra Costa County Activities in the Delta

Abigail Fateman, Contra Costa County Community Development Department, described Conservation initiatives, education and restoration programs and "other" activities in the County. She described the Habitat Conservation Plan (a preliminary draft is now available); the Open Space Tax Measure on a May ballot; the new Contra Costa County Watershed Atlas which includes habitat restoration projects; a recreation education program (The Water You Play In Is the Water You Drink); Channel Maintenance (Bay to Port of Stockton; and San Luis Drain Monitoring.

Mr. Nelson asked how the Delta In-Channel Island fit into the County vision; Ms Fateman said it is important for the County to know about on-going habitat restoration projects.

3. DCI Mission

Rick Morat, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service volunteers to lead the discussion on "where do we go from here?" Mr. Morat created a list of goals for the discussion. The group received a report from Marcia Brockbank, Estuary Project, about how and when the group was formed--the group is one of several geographic groups set up to implement the CCMP, adopted in 1994. The group individually read the original "Coordination of Efforts Memo", circa 1998. Each person present was asked to express their view:

Margit Aramburu, Delta Protection Commission, said the uniqueness and value of the Delta habitats, including the in channel islands is reflected in the Commission's Act and Regional Plan; she said there is no other entity working to protect and enhance the In-Channel Islands, and she supported continuing the work of the group, and revitalizing participation on the group.

4. Final Report on the Three Islands Due June 2004

The group identified the need for detailed sketches, specs, etc, that would allow others to use the methods developed and refined by the DICI project. Chris Kjeldsen distributed a draft he had prepared of various schematics. There was discussion of how to use the information and the need to have a method to distribute data to others.

ACTION: Comments due to Mr. Kjeldsen by March 31, 2004.

Memo From Rick Morat Re: Lessons Learned/"Do we need to make a case for action?"

Mr. Morat reviewed his 2/17/04 memo; he suggested visiting the several sites in Summer 2005 to tour, observe and document. Jeff Hart mentioned the need for long term maintenance. Mr. Nelson mention the need to document the projects to regulate staff with the regulatory agencies, and to visit the sites Summer 2004 and Summer 2005. Mr. Kjeldsen agreed with the need to visit the sites, and said there needs to be a brief paper or synopsis of the lessons learned--a manual. Ms Brockbank suggested seeking a small grant to prepare and distribute the handbook.

Action: Ms Aramburu will notify the CALFED Science Program re students seeking research projects--longer term monitoring of In-Channel Islands.

Action: Ms Brockbank research small grants for manual.

Action: All will look for grants to continue monitoring.

Action: Boat trip will be scheduled for Summer or early Fall 2005.

5. **Amendment to NFWF Contract on Webb Tract #3**
6. **Old Business**
7. **Next Meeting and Adjournment**